

EMSC Committee Survey 8-30-07

Results Overview



Date: 2/1/2008 8:35 AM PST
 Responses: Completes
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EMSC Survey Introduction

The EMS for Children (EMSC) Committee of the State EMS Advisory Board is currently holding discussions about the understanding and knowledge of EMS personnel in Virginia related to the reporting of suspected cases of child abuse and neglect. The Committee is interested in learning what opinions and practices exist today and has developed a brief survey to assess and define this information.

The purpose of the survey is to determine what EMS providers understand about their current responsibilities, and their general attitudes related to reporting suspected cases of child abuse and neglect. In addition, the survey contains questions concerning reporting requirements for EMS personnel related to suspected cases of elder abuse and neglect. On behalf of the entire Committee, Dr. Theresa Guins, M.D., Chair of the EMS for Children Committee would like to thank individuals in advance for their time and effort to complete this brief survey.

If you have any questions related to this survey please contact Mr. Dave Edwards, EMSC Coordinator for the Virginia Office of EMS at david.edwards@vdh.virginia.gov or call 1-800-523-6019.

1. Are you, as an EMS provider, required to report suspected child and elderly abuse/neglect to the appropriate "hotline" or state/local agency?


Yes		1809	86%
No		62	3%
Child abuse only		17	1%
Elderly abuse only		163	8%
Don't know		57	3%
Total		2108	100%

2. Have you ever reported suspicions of child or elderly abuse/neglect to personnel at a receiving hospital?

No		1038	49%
Child abuse only		221	10%
Elderly abuse only		282	13%
Both		564	27%
Total		2105	100%

3. Have you ever reported suspicions of child or elderly abuse/neglect directly via the appropriate "hotline" or by calling the appropriate state/local agency?











No		1548	74%
Child abuse only		120	6%
Elderly abuse only		218	10%

Both		205	10%
Total		2091	100%





4. Have you ever suspected that you have seen a case of child or elderly abuse/neglect in your capacity as an EMS provider?

No		835	40%
Child abuse only		193	9%
Elderly abuse only		357	17%
Both		714	34%
Total		2099	100%

5. What would stop you, as an EMS provider, from reporting your suspicions of child and elderly abuse/neglect directly to the child abuse or elderly abuse "hotline" (or appropriate agency)?
Check as many boxes as apply.

Nothing would stop me		1666	79%
Too busy		30	1%
Might end up in court		63	3%
Makes it worse for the victim		117	6%
Don't care		3	0%
Too much trouble		16	1%
Fear of retaliation		81	4%
Against agency or departmental policy		38	2%
Don't want to cause trouble in case I'm wrong		217	10%
None of my business		9	0%
Fear of some kind of "liability"		111	5%
Other, please specify		193	9%






6. On a scale of 1-5, please select the number that best describes the likelihood that you would be willing to report suspected child and/or elderly abuse/neglect directly to the appropriate abuse "hotline".

Never		4	0%
Not likely		23	1%
Might		127	6%
Very likely		789	38%
Everytime		1159	55%

Total	2102	100%
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Demographics: Please tell us about you.



7. What is your highest level of certification?

EMT-Basic		942	45%
EMT-Intermediate		345	16%
EMT-Paramedic		563	27%
Nurse		102	5%
Physician		6	0%
Other		146	7%
Total		2104	100%



8. How long have you been an EMS provider in Virginia?

0-5 years		662	31%
6-10 years		502	24%
11-15 years		370	18%
16-20 years		248	12%
More than 20 years		298	14%
Other, please specify		27	1%
Total		2107	100%

9. Please indicate your gender.












Male		1296	62%
Female		808	38%
Total		2104	100%

10. Are you a parent?


Yes		1271	65%
No		680	35%
Total		1951	100%

11. In which Regional Council do you primarily serve?



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Southwest Virginia EMS Council		147	7%
Western Virginia EMS Council		181	9%
Blue Ridge EMS Council		109	5%
Central Shenandoah EMS Council		117	6%
Thomas Jefferson EMS Council		154	7%
Old Dominion EMS Alliance		405	19%
Rappahannock EMS Council		166	8%
Lord Fairfax EMS Council		88	4%
Northern Virginia EMS Council		311	15%
Peninsulas EMS Council		153	7%
Tidewater EMS Council		257	12%
Total		2088	100%

12. Do you consider yourself a "career" or "volunteer" EMS provider?

Career		618	29%
Volunteer		1045	50%
Combination (both)		439	21%
Total		2102	100%

13. Are you a certified EMT Instructor or ALS Coordinator?

Yes		251	12%
No		1851	88%
Total		2102	100%